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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RICH TEXT DOCUMENT STORAGE ON SMALL DEVICES ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a method and apparatus for rich text document storage on small devices. One embodiment provides a compact word processing document format. The document format allows viewing and editing of a document on PDAs. In one embodiment, the document format also includes style information. In another embodiment, the document format handles multi-byte characters. Yet another embodiment is designed to utilize a record-based storage system. One embodiment stores two style galleries in one record of a document. One style gallery represents style information for paragraphs. The other style gallery represents style information for smaller text runs (where a run is sequence of text of one style). The rest of the document stores the text of the document and information about applying styles from the galleries to the text. Documents in standard word processing formats are converted to the document format of the embodiment with little or no loss in stylistic information. One embodiment is designed to function on Palm PDAs. Other embodiments are designed to function on

other types of PDAs.